

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of delivering a document that accompanies an electronic mail,  
the method comprising:
  - 5 receiving an electronic mail;  
  
removing a document attached to the electronic mail;  
  
including in the electronic mail a link that leads to a storage location for  
the document; and  
  
sending the electronic mail to a recipient.
- 10 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the storage location is on a web server.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein the link to the storage location comprises  
a hyperlink included in a web page.
4. The method of claim 3 wherein the web page includes links to documents  
that accompanied previously sent electronic mails.
- 15 5. The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
  
receiving the electronic mail; and  
  
downloading the document by activating the link to the storage location.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein the electronic mail includes a request for  
attachment processing.
- 20 7. The method of claim 6 wherein the request for attachment processing is in  
an addressee field of the electronic mail.

8. A system for delivering a document that accompanies an electronic mail, the system comprising:

an attachment processing program configured to receive an electronic mail composed in a client computer, to remove a document attached to the electronic mail, to store the document in a storage location, and to reformat the electronic mail to include a link to a web page that includes a link to the storage location; and

an electronic mail server configured to transmit the electronic mail to a recipient indicated in the electronic mail.

9. The system of claim 8 wherein the electronic mail server comprises a simple mail transfer protocol (SMTP) server.

10. The system of claim 8 wherein the attachment processing program is configured to detect if the electronic mail includes a request for attachment processing.

11. The system of claim 10 wherein the request for attachment processing is included in an addressee field of the electronic mail.

12. The system of claim 8 wherein the web page includes a plurality of links to a plurality of documents that accompanied previously sent electronic mails.

13. The system of claim 8 further comprising a configuration file indicating where a document is to be stored.

14. A method of delivering a document that accompanies an electronic mail, the method comprising:

receiving an electronic mail from a first client computer, the electronic mail including a request for attachment processing;

removing a document attached to the electronic mail;

storing the document in a storage location accessible by a web server;

5 reformatting the electronic mail to include in the electronic mail a link to a web page that includes a link to the storage location, the web page including a plurality of links to documents that accompanied previously sent electronic mails; and

sending the electronic mail to a recipient.

10 15. The method of claim 14 wherein the link to the web page comprises a hyperlink.

16. The method of claim 14 wherein the electronic mail is sent by a simple mail transfer protocol (SMTP) electronic mail server.

17. The method of claim 14 wherein the request for attachment processing is  
15 in an addressee field of the electronic mail.

18. The method of claim 14 further comprising:

receiving the electronic mail in a second client computer;

displaying the web page in a web browser on the second client computer;

and

20 activating a link in the web page to download a document in the second client computer.

19. The method of claim 14 further comprising:

providing the document to a second client computer that received the electronic mail, the document being provided upon activation of a link in the web page.

20. The method of claim 14 further comprising:

5 providing a selected document to a second client computer, the selected document being provided upon activation of a link in the plurality of links to documents that accompanied previously sent electronic mails.